



**Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission
Minutes of Metabolic Alkalosis Workshop
Held February 21, 2006**

A metabolic alkalosis workshop was held at 2:30 PM on February 21, 2006, in the Horseman's Office, 2nd floor conference room, at Delaware Park, 777 Delaware Park Boulevard, Wilmington, DE 19804

The following Commission members were present:

W. Duncan Patterson, Commission Secretary
Debbie Killeen
Edward J. Stegemeier

The following Commission members were excused:

Bernard J. Daney, Chairman
H. James Decker

The following individuals also were present:

Patricia Murphy, Esq., DOJ, Commission Counsel	Greg Petkiewicz, Delaware Park
John F. Wayne, DTRC, Executive Director	Fritz Burkhardt, DTRC, Associate Steward
Francis Swift, DTRC, Inspector	Wallace Neilson, Trainer
Michael J. McCarthy, DTHA	David Neilson, Owner
Vincent Moscarelli, DTHA	Joe Rudisill, Delaware Park
John T. Peters, D.V.M., DTRC, Supervising Veterinarian	Bill Fasy, Delaware Park
Kathy Picciano, D.V.M., DTRC, Veterinarian	Randall Rolfe, Owner
Mike Delaney, TRPB	Sam Abbey, Delaware Park
	Jack Ireland, The News Journal

1. WELCOME

At 2:30 PM, Mr. John Wayne, DTRC, Executive Director, welcomed those in attendance.

2. POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Purpose Of Workshop

The Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission has mandated that blood gas testing be performed beginning in 2006.

The purpose of workshop is to:

- Discuss several options on how to implement program,
- Determine at this meeting which option plan to use and recommend to DTRC at their February 24, 2006 meeting, and
- Discuss any personnel issues relating to the implementation of the program.

Program Objectives

- Ensure honesty and integrity of racing product,
- Determine if horse's "PH"/Alkalinity has been altered, and
- Minimize inconveniences to the horse racing community relating to the testing program's implementation, while maintaining the integrity of the program.

Program Options

Option 1

All horses report to the detention barn for assembly. Once assembled, Stewards will randomly select those horses to be tested. After samples are obtained from the randomly selected horses, all race entrants will be released to report to the paddock for race preparation.

Option 2

Stewards will randomly select horses for pre-race testing out of each race. A Delaware Park representative will coordinate notification of horsemen of the horses selected via the Stewards. Those horses will report to the detention barn for pre-race sampling.

Option 3

"Post-Race Testing"

Winners and any other horse(s) selected by the Stewards shall report to the detention barn. Regular testing will take place, however, the blood sample used for blood gas testing will have to be obtained at least 3 hours following the running of that particular race. The reason is that for blood gas testing to be effective, the animal must be at rest. "Post-Race" blood gas testing will require a rule change.

Option 4

"Pre-Race and Post-Race Testing"

Randomly selected horse(s) by the Stewards will be brought to the detention barn for pre-race testing. If the winner was "pre-race" tested no further blood sample is required "post-race." Regular testing will take place, however. The Stewards may randomly select any other horse(s) for "post-race" testing. Horse(s) shall remain at detention barn for the 3-hour waiting period.

E-MAIL MESSAGE FROM DR. SCOT WATERMAN, RMTc

"From the research I have seen it appears that the Thoroughbred recovers to "normal" much slower than the Standardbred. This is not to denigrate the Maryland/Virginia way of doing things because I know they are confident that their system works but I think you would need to hold Thoroughbreds probably close to three hours to really be certain that you are getting a reading that is not artificially low due to exercise. I know New York did some post-race testing when they first started out and pretty quickly did away with it because horses were routinely below 30. You might want to contact Ted Hill to see specifically what they found and when samples were drawn."

Mr. Wayne added that he did in fact interview Dr. Ted Hill, Jockey Club Steward at the New York Racing Association on February 16, 2006. During that interview, Dr. Hill advised that they had abandoned "post race" testing due to the fact that the horses had to be held for an extended period of time following the races and that this was not feasible. With their detention barn set up that they have presently he indicated that they are doing pre-race testing, but not learning of the results until after the race is run.

CONCLUSIONS

Pre-Race Testing

Any horse determined to be in violation of DTRC Rules and Regulations regarding metabolic alkalosis levels, will be scratched by the Board of Stewards and considered unfit to run. All violations to be investigated. Horses to be placed on "Steward's List". Sanctions taken against violators will be determined by the Board of Stewards.

If Post-Race Testing recommended by workshop group:

Positives would be dealt with severely and consistently with other positives that indicate violation of administration of foreign substances and violations of the 24-hour rule. Results of an investigation would serve the Stewards to mete out an appropriate penalty.

3. Recommendation and consensus reached by Work shop group to the DTRC for consideration at their February 24, 2006 meeting. Modified Option 1:

All horses report to the Detention Barn for designation. Once they report, the Stewards will randomly select those horse(s) to be tested. All other horses will be permitted to continue to the paddock. After samples are obtained from the randomly selected horse(s), those race entrants will be released to report to the paddock for race preparation. Results of the pre-race testing will be reported to the Stewards prior to those horses arriving at the paddock. If a violation of base excess levels is detected, then that horse would be scratched and a follow-up investigation would take place. A grace period is recommended during the initial start of the program for a time period to be determined prior to placing sanctions against the horse and trainer.

Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission

Blood Gas Workshop/Meeting

Delaware Park

February 21, 2006

2:30 p.m.





The Commission has mandated that Blood Gas testing will take place during 2006



Blood Gas Testing Instrument

Radiometer ABL - 710



Purpose of Meeting/Workshop

- Discuss several options on how to implement program.
- Determine at this meeting which option plan to use and recommend to DTRC at their February 24, 2006 meeting.
- Discuss any personnel issues relating to the implementation of the program.



Program Objectives



- Ensure honesty and integrity of Racing Product.
- Determine if horse's "PH" / Alkalinity has been altered.
- Minimize inconveniences to the horse racing community relating to the testing program's implementation, while maintaining the integrity of the program.



Program Options



OPTION 1.

All horses report to the Detention Barn for assembly. Once assembled, Stewards will randomly select those horses to be tested. After samples are obtained from the randomly selected horses, all race entrants will be released to report to the paddock for race preparation.



Program Options (continued)

OPTION 2.

Stewards will randomly select horses for pre-race testing out of each race. A Delaware Park representative will coordinate notification of horsemen of the horses selected via the Stewards. Those horses will report to the Detention Barn for pre-race sampling.



Program Options (continued)

OPTION 3.

“Post Race Testing”

Winners and any other horse(s) selected by the Stewards shall report to the Detention Barn. Regular testing will take place, however, the blood sample used for blood gas testing will have to be obtained at least 3 hours following the running of that particular race. The reason for this is that for blood gas testing to be effective, the animal must be at rest. “Post Race” blood gas testing will require a rule change.



Program Options (continued)

OPTION 4.

“Pre-Race and Post-Race”

Randomly selected horses by the Stewards will be brought to the Detention Barn for pre-race testing.

If the Winner was “pre-race” tested, no further blood sample is required “post-race.” Regular testing will take place however.

The Stewards may randomly select any other horse(s) for “post-race” testing. Horse shall remain at Detention Barn for the 3 hour waiting period.



An E-mail message from Dr. Scot Waterman, RMTC

Hi John-

From the research I have seen it appears that the Thoroughbred recovers to "normal" much slower than the Standardbred. This is not to denigrate the Maryland/Virginia way of doing things because I know they are confident that their system works but I think you would need to hold Thoroughbreds probably close to three hours to really be certain that you are getting a reading that is not artificially low due to exercise. I know New York did some post-race testing when they first started out and pretty quickly did away with it because horses were routinely below 30. You might want to contact Ted Hill to see specifically what they found and when samples were drawn.

Hope that helps.

Scot



Conclusions

- Pre-Race Testing

Any horse determined to be in violation of DTRC Rules and Regulations regarding metabolic alkalosis levels, will be scratched by the Board of Stewards and considered unfit to run. All violations to be investigated.

Horse to be placed on “Steward’s List”

Sanctions taken against violators will be determined by the Board of Stewards.



Conclusions (continued)

If Post-Race Testing is approved or recommended by the workshop group:

- * Positives would be dealt with severely and consistent with other positives that indicate violation of administration of foreign substances and violations of the 24 hour rule. Results of an investigation would serve the Stewards to mete out an appropriate penalty.



Thank You

